



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 19, 2008

H.R. 1464 **Great Cats and Rare Canids Act of 2008**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on September 17, 2008*

SUMMARY

H.R. 1464 would require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish a grant program to protect and conserve rare species of cats (such as leopards) and canids (such as wolves) in the wild. The act would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013 for financial assistance to eligible government agencies, international or foreign organizations, or private entities engaged in such activities. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1464 would increase discretionary spending by \$19 million over the 2009-2013 period and by \$6 million after 2013.

H.R. 1464 also would authorize the agency to accept and spend (without further appropriation) donations from nonfederal sources. Enacting this provision could increase revenues (from donations) and direct spending (of those donations), but CBO estimates that such increases would offset each other and therefore have no net effect on the federal budget.

H.R. 1464 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 1464 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2009 and that authorized amounts will be provided as specified in the bill. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar programs. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2009- 2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	5	5	5	5	5	25
Estimated Outlays	2	3	4	5	5	19

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 1464 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On May 5, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1464 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 30, 2008. The two versions of the legislation are very similar but contain different authorization periods. The CBO estimates reflect that difference.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Deborah Reis

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrill

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Theresa Gullo

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis